



# Between the lines

SEPTEMBER / OCTOBER 2006

A PUBLICATION OF THE SUNNYVALE PUBLIC LIBRARY

## Friends Group Gives \$85,000 to the Library

By Steve Sloan

Begun in 1965, the Friends of the Sunnyvale Public Library is a non-profit organization comprised of volunteers who donate their time to raise funds in support of Library activities and to promote the Library in the community. The Friends raise funds through the sale of donated books at regular book sale events and from a Book Table within the Library as well as through individual, family, or life memberships.

Every year, Library staff organizes a Wish List of items which could enhance your Library experience. The Friends group reviews this list each year and allocates funds to support Library activities. For the 2006/2007 year, the Friends approved financial support in the amount of \$85,060. Support falls into three broad categories:



The Friends provided funds for bus transportation for families from Bishop Elementary school to visit the Library.

### Library Marketplace – \$43,300

The Library Marketplace concept strives to bring forward materials and information of high interest to the community in a convenient location. To accomplish this, there will be a coordinated redesign of the lobby entrance area including the entrance, the hallway connecting the entrance to the program room, and the space surrounding the new materials shelves, fireplace, and circulation desk. This entrance space will feature more materials, whether they be new or on a topic of interest in the community. It will also highlight information about services and events offered by the City of Sunnyvale and other community organizations. Examples of enhancements in this category include display gondolas, slatwall, upgraded self check-out machines, tables, chairs, and more.

### Library Programs – \$17,300

One of the critical components of the library's mission as stated in the 2003 Library Sub-element is to "provide library programs and publications to educate, enrich, and enlighten Library users." Examples of enhancements in this category include the summer reading programs, Opera San Jose preview in July, bus transportation to arrange trips for school children to visit the Library, and more.

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## The Library of the Future Begins To Take Shape

By Deborah Barrow  
Director of Libraries

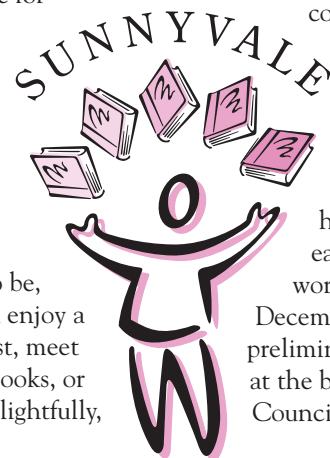
Libraries are important assets to their communities. They are part of the educational infrastructure for all age groups, providing a wealth of resources from books and magazines, CDs, and DVDs to Internet access, downloadable books, and downloadable audio materials. Libraries also serve as a special place to be, a place where people can enjoy a good book, study for a test, meet to discuss their favorite books, or hear an author speak. Delightfully,

Library of the Future, the Library Sub-element, and information given to members of the Library Board of Trustees. Comments submitted to the Library through emails and other communications will be considered, as well.

The tentative timeline for the study includes working with library staff beginning in September, holding a public meeting early in the Fall, continuing work with staff through December, and presenting a preliminary report to Council at the beginning of the year. Council directive at that time will determine subsequent steps in the process.

This plan and timeline may change and are subject to the City Council's approval when the contract is awarded for the study.

Library staff would like to go to community group meetings to provide additional information and obtain more ideas from those that are interested in the project. Please contact the Library at (408) 730-7316 to schedule a presentation. If you would like to receive e-mail alerts on the news on the Sunnyvale Library of the Future project, please send an e-mail to: [futurelib@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:futurelib@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us) with the word "Subscribe" in the Subject Line. You may also follow the latest developments through the Library's Web site at [www.sunnyvalelibrary.org](http://www.sunnyvalelibrary.org).



## Library of the Future

libraries often are among the first places where babies and children learn about books, reading, and how to socialize with others.

The Sunnyvale Public Library offers all of the above, and hopes to maintain its importance and usefulness to the community now and into the future. A Request for Proposals has been released by the City of Sunnyvale for library building and planning specialists to begin working with the City on a study of community needs, future services, and facility needs. The current library building will be reviewed in detail. The specialists also will look at options and associated costs. The study will incorporate comments and feedback from the public at previous meetings and discussions about the Sunnyvale

## New Early Literacy Computer Available

By Betsy Wachter

A new computer workstation is now available in the Children's Room. The computer is pre-loaded with a variety of software programs for children from preschool through the early elementary school years. Children will have fun learning numbers and math, reading skills, art, science, and keyboarding. The Encarta Dictionary and Encyclopedia will allow children to locate information needed for reports. Word Pad, a simple word processing program, will allow children to create reports, letters, and other documents. Headphones are available.

The purchase of this computer was made possible through a cooperative arrangement with the California State Library. At first glance you can see that it is not intended for adults. The keyboard has keys in several colors and the mouse is just the right size for little hands.

Children may sign up to use this work station for 1/2 hour each day. Children under 8 must be accompanied by an adult to use the computer.



For complete information on the Sunnyvale Public Library, please call (408) 730-7300 or visit

[www.sunnyvalelibrary.org](http://www.sunnyvalelibrary.org)



# What Are We Reading?

By Christine Doxtdad

Featured this month is Betsy Wachter, Supervising Librarian for Children’s Services. Betsy has had a long relationship with libraries, beginning with her experience as a Girl Scout volunteer at the age of thirteen. She reads books for both adults and children and is an enthusiastic user of the Library’s downloadable audio books.

## What are you reading?

I always have several books going at once. Right now, at my bedside table, is a mystery, **The Art of Detection** by Laurie King. It is set in current day San Francisco and revolves around the discovery of an unpublished manuscript by Sherlock Holmes. When I am exercising, walking or quilting I listen to an audio book that I downloaded from the Library’s downloadable audio book collection. Currently I am listening to **Cider House Rules** by John Irving. The book is set in rural Maine and is the story of a doctor who runs an orphanage. The characters are wonderfully portrayed, you almost feel like you are there with them.

I also have a book on tape that I listen to in my car, called **Star of Kazan** by Eva Ibbotson. It’s a children’s novel set in 19th century Vienna and involves castles and conniving characters.

## How do you decide what to read?

I read reviews in the *San Jose Mercury News* and other publications. I also look at the New Book area in the library frequently. To choose my downloadable books I go to the library’s web site, click on e-books and browse through the titles available on the Califa Digital Book collection.

## What are you reading next?

I spotted **Queen of the Underworld** by Gail Godwin on the New Book shelf. I like all of her books, she’s written more than twelve, and this one looks very promising. It’s about a young woman who lands a job with the *Miami Star*. Her work as a reporter



brings her into contact with many memorable characters, including the “queen of the underworld.”

## What have you read in the past year?

I love a mystery, so it’s no surprise that two of my favorite books were mysteries.

The first, **Lincoln Lawyer** by Michael Connelly, was a deviation from the author’s usual protagonist Harry Bosch, and so I hesitated to read it. But I thought it was excellent and just as good as his other books. The second mystery is **Death Dance** by Linda Fairstein. Her books take place in fascinating settings, this time at Lincoln Center’s Metropolitan Opera House. This is the most recent in a series of books featuring sex crimes prosecutor Alexandra Cooper and I enjoyed it very much. My favorite children’s book this past year was **Inkheart** by Cornelia Funke. This is the story about a girl whose father has special skills. He can “read” people in and out of books. Some very unsavory characters appear from the pages of the book and Meggie tries to find the author who can then change the end of the story. Finally, I ran across a downloadable audio book that I really enjoyed called **Pawley’s Island** by Dorothea Frank. This is a South Carolina island story and features wonderful characters all with secrets in their past.

# Free Feature Films!

By Susan Denniston

Two years ago, in a plan to increase revenues to the Library during a budget crisis, the Library started charging rental fees for feature DVDs and videotapes. The revenue that was collected was only about 1/3 of the money needed to avoid other reductions in the Library’s budget. The collected revenue, although not as much as projected, allowed us to delay reductions in services and staffing. Many library users were unhappy about paying the rental fee. Library staff thought it was important to make the necessary reductions to the budget so that feature DVD/videos could again be offered to the public at no charge. In June, 2006, the Sunnyvale City Council agreed to rescind the feature film rental fee.

Library users may now borrow up to 6 feature DVDs or videos for free for 7 days at a time. There are many excellent films to interest all members of the family. New films are purchased for the collection throughout the year. In addition to films in English, feature films are available in Chinese, Spanish, Russian, Vietnamese, Persian, Tagalog, Japanese, Korean and other languages. Please look over our recently free films and borrow your favorites.

# Boards and Commissions Program

By Janice Clark

Would you like to get involved with assisting the City Council? Board and Commission members serve on a volunteer basis and are appointed by the City Council. These positions assist the City Council and help to set the direction for Sunnyvale. Special requirements/qualifications such as residency and professional experience may be required.

City residents interested in serving on a City of Sunnyvale Board or Commission may obtain an application form at the City Clerk’s Office, 603 All America Way - South Annex or online at [www.ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](http://www.ci.sunnyvale.ca.us) under Boards and Commissions. Liaison contact numbers and more information may also be found at the City’s Board and Commission website. Please call the staff contact for additional information regarding the duties and responsibilities of the Council Advisory Boards and Commissions.

2006 Fall Recruitment begins September 5, 2006 for the following current openings:

- Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee (1)

- Board of Building Code Appeals (2)
- Board of Library Trustees (1)
- Heritage Preservation Commission (1)
- Housing and Human Services Commission (1)
- Personnel Board (must be nominated by a City employee) (2)

Please join us for an Informational Meeting: Monday, September 18, 2006 – 6 p.m. at Sunnyvale City Hall located at 456 West Olive Avenue in the West Conference Room.

Application deadline is 5 p.m. on Friday, November 3, 2006.

## TEENS!

The Library is planning a teen book group. If you are in 6th through 12th grade, and want to come to the library once a month to talk about books with other teens, let us know! Either tell the librarian at desk in the Children’s Room or e-mail the Teen Librarian at [library@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us](mailto:library@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us).

# “Rejuvenating” the Children’s Room

By Betsy Wachter

With the encouragement of City Manager Amy Chan, library staff will be making some changes to the children’s space in the library. This project will be paid for with funds that the Library receives annually from the California State Library.

The purpose of this project is to make the children’s space more child- and family-friendly and to encourage children to read, imagine, explore and learn when they enter this space. An artist will help us to design and create a façade for the entrance so there will be no question that you are entering the space for children and families. We will be purchasing some new furniture that will be more attractive and make better use of our limited floor area. Some shifting will be done within the children’s collections to maximize use of the available shelving.

To give us your input for this project, please select “Make a general suggestion” on the front page of the library catalog and list your ideas. Together we can make some changes that will be enjoyed by young library users and their families for years to come.

The Children’s Room on a busy weekend in July. How would you improve this space?



Sunnyvale Public Library  
665 W. Olive Ave., Sunnyvale, CA 94086

## Library Hours

Monday–Thursday	10am–9pm
Friday & Saturday	10am–6pm
Sunday	12pm–8pm

Book and media drops are located outside the Library for after-hours returns.

## Telephone Numbers

Borrowers’ Records	(408) 730-2748
Children’s & Teen Services	(408) 730-7292
Deaf Access: TDD/TYY	(408) 730-7501
Dial-A-Story (English)	(408) 730-7333
Dial-A-Story (Spanish)	(408) 737-4907
Information & Reference	(408) 730-7300
Library Cards	(408) 730-2748
Library Administration	(408) 730-7316
Overdue Materials	(408) 730-7309
Renewals (Automated)	(408) 730-7310
Special Outreach Services	(408) 730-7306

## Area Code

## Library Web Site

[www.sunnyvalelibrary.org](http://www.sunnyvalelibrary.org)

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Sunnyvale will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special accommodation, please contact the library.